## BIOGRAPHY OF CONGRESSMAN ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UNITED STATES FROM VIRGINIA'S THIRD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Congressman Robert C. "Bobby" Scott began his seventh term as a member of Congress on January 4, 2005. He won his re-election campaign with 69 percent of the vote in the recent 2004 elections. Congressman Scott served in the Virginia House of Delegates from 1978 to 1983 and in the Virginia State Senate from 1983 to 1993.

During his 15-year tenure in the Virginia General Assembly, Rep. Scott built coalitions to pass laws critical to Virginians in healthcare, education, employment, economic development, crime prevention, social services and consumer protection. Among his legislative successes are laws that improved healthcare benefits for women, infants and children, increased the Virginia minimum wage, created the Governor's Employment and Training Council and established The Neighborhood Assistance Act. This Act provides tax credits to businesses for donations made to approved social service and crime prevention programs. In November 1992, Congressman Scott became only the second African American from Virginia to be elected to the United States House of Representatives and the first since "Reconstruction." Having a maternal grandfather of Filipino ancestry also gives Rep. Scott the distinction of being the first American with Filipino heritage to serve in the United States Congress.

Rep. Scott serves on the House Judiciary Committee where he is the lead Democrat on the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism and Homeland Security and a member of the Constitution subcommittee. After taking a leave of absence in the 108th congress to serve on the House Budget Committee, Rep. Scott has returned to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.

In Congress, he has championed several successful legislative initiatives. In 1997, Rep. Scott led a key fight to protect the rights of all children with disabilities to a free and appropriate education under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). He also sponsored the Death in Custody Act that was signed into law on October 17, 2000. It requires states to report information regarding the death of any person who is in the process of being arrested, or in the custody of law enforcement officials. He is also known in Congress as a champion of the Bill of Rights to the U.S. Constitution.

Most recently he led bipartisan efforts to pass comprehensive juvenile delinquency prevention legislation to provide resources to state and local governments to prevent and address juvenile crime and legislation designed to reduce the school dropout rate.

Rep. Scott is a leading Congressional opponent of efforts to permit employment discrimination based on race or religion in federally funded programs.

Rep. Scott was born April 30, 1947 in Washington, D.C. and grew up in Newport News, Virginia. He is a graduate of Harvard College and Boston College Law School. After graduating from law school, he returned to Newport News and practiced law from 1973 to 1991. He received an honorable discharge for his service in the Massachusetts National Guard and the United States Army Reserves.

Rep. Scott is a member of St. Augustine's Episcopal Church in Newport News and has been a member of many professional, community and civic boards and organizations.

## **Awards and Citations**

- \* March 2003, Head Start Association (VaHSA) presented Rep. Scott with an award in appreciation of his outstanding and dedicated service to Head Start Children, Parents, and Staff.
- \* February 23, 2003, Hampton Roads Black Media presented Rep. Scott with an award for recognition of his invaluable contribution to the community.
- \* February 22, 2003, Hampton University's TRIO Program presented Rep. Scott with the award for appreciation of his continued support for TRIO.
- \* January 25, 2003, The Newport News Chapter of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference award in appreciation for his hard work and dedication to civil rights.
- \* 2002 Boston College Law School presented Rep. Scott with the St. Thomas More Award.
- \* 2002, The Council of Chief State School Officers award for representing students, parents, and educators as a member of the United States House of Representatives.
- \* 2002 Alpha Phi Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. award for Humanitarian of the Year for dedicated community service.
- \* November 1, 2002, NAACP award for continuous struggle to improve the quality of life and equality for all.
- \* November 2002, Capital Commitment, Inc presented Rep. Scott with a certificate of appreciation for his contribution to Capital Commitment Hampton Roads Open House.
- \* May 2002, Received the NOBLE (National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives) Chapter Presidents award.
- \* February 27, 2002, The National Association of the Alcoholism and Drug Abuse

Counselors (NAADAC) presented Rep. Scott with the "Congressman of the Year Award for 2002."

- \* February 9, 2002, Richmond Branch NAACP, Prayer Breakfast Speaker Award.
- \* January 5, 2002, The Action Starts Here (TASH) presented Congressman Scott with a certificate of recognition of his service to children and youth with disabilities and their families.
- \* 2002 Virginia Living Museum presented an award to Congressman Scott for his "commitment to preserving Virginia's natural heritage through education."
- \* 2001 AT & T Broadband presented Rep. Scott with the Emerging Technology Award.
- \* 2001 Memory Walk Alzheimer's Association presented Rep. Scott with a Certificate of Appreciation.
- \* June 24, 2001, The National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials presented Rep. Scott with an award in recognition of his support.
- \* May 20, 2001, The Virginia Chapter of Americans United for Separation of Church and State presented Rep. Scott with the "Champion of Church and State Separation Award."
- \* April 14, 2001, The Lambda Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. presented Rep. Scott with the "Citizen of the Year Award."
- \* March 2001, The Virginia Living Museum presented an award to Congressman Scott for his "commitment to preserving Virginia's natural heritage through education."
- \* March 27 2001, The National Association of Community Health Centers, Inc. and the Health Centers from the State of Virginia presented Congressman Scott with the "2001 Community Health Super Hero Award" for his "strong and consistent support for community, migrant, and homeless health centers and their patients throughout the Second Session on the 106th Congress."
- \* February 27, 2001, The National Association of the Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselors (NAADAC) presented Rep. Scott with the "Congressman of the Year Award for 2001."
- \* February 15, 2001, The National Park Conservation Association presented Congressman Scott with a "Friend of the National Parks Award."
- \* January 25, 2001, The American Federation of Teachers presented to Congressman Scott a "Quality Service Award." He received this recognition for his "outstanding efforts and steadfast support for legislation to advance the interests of children, public education,

public employees and working families."

- \* 2000, The United Sate Department of Commerce presented Congressman RCS commitment and dedication to the U.S. Census.
- \* October 2000, Virginia Peninsula Business and Education Partner for John Marshall Elementary School.
- \* October 4, 2000, Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities presented Congressman Scott with the IDEA Hero Award for his leadership in protecting and expanding IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act).
- \* August 24, 2000, National Black Farmers Association, Distinguished Service and Commitment to the Plight of the Black Farmer.
- \* June 1, 2000, The Old Dominion Bar Association presented Congressman Scott with the Harold Marsh, Sr. Community Service Award.
- \* March 30, 2000, The Children's Defense Fund presented Congressman Scott with the "Safe Start" Award.
- \* 1999 Congressional Advocate of the Year presented by the Child Welfare League of America.
- \* 1999 The National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives presented Congressman Scott with the First Annual Leadership Recognition Award.
- \* December 30, 1999, The Hampton Roads Committee of 200+ Men presented Rep. Scott with an award for recognition of his contributions to Community Betterment in Virginia and the U.S. Congress.
- \* December 1999, Charles City County High School, Convocation Speaker Award.
- \* November 13, 1999, Best Friend Award presented by the Friends of Hampton Roads.
- \* May 13, 1999, Educator Award presented by Media One.
- \* April 27, 1999, Award presented by the Religious Action Center in Honor of Leaders in Battle to Protect Religious Freedom.
- \* April 6, 1999, The Virginia Legislative Black Caucus presented Congressman Scott with a Service Achievement Award.
- \* August 14, 1998, Virginia State, AFL-CIO, Paul A. Askew Community Services Memorial Award "In recognition of his untiring support for community services to workers and their families and upholding the highest tradition of humanitarianism".

- \* 1998 Council for Exceptional Children.
- \* 1998 Achievable Dream Academy presented Congressmen Scott with a Degree of Dreamers.
- \* 1997 Boys and Girls Club of Greater Hampton Roads presented Congressman Scott with a certificate for exceptional achievement.
- \* 1997 The National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) awarded the "Special Friend of Children Award" to Representative Scott for outstanding work on behalf of all children and youth.
- \* The Harvard Foundation for Intercultural and Race Relations to Enhance the Quality of our Common Life Award.
- \* Congressional Youth Leadership Council in Recognition of Commitment to Educating Today's Young Leaders for Their Roles in Tomorrow's World through Membership on the Honorary Congressional Board of Advisors.
- \* December 1997 National Council on Crime and Criminal Delinquency Awarded the Ira A. Lopman Award to Representative Scott "for enlightened and forceful leadership in implementing effective crime prevention policies that are fair, humane, and economically sound."
- \* April 4, 1997 The Honorable Harold A. Stevens Alumni Award by the Boston College Law School Black Alumni Network.
- \* July 15, 1996 Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. and Dr. Eva L. Evans, International President Salute Congressman Scott for Unparallel Legislative Service and a Monumental Commitment to Democracy to the US Congress.
- \* Virginia Housing Development Authority Awarded "A Champion of Home Ownership" in Appreciation of Support for the Mortgage Revenue Bond Program which has Financed Homes for Over 70,000 Low and Moderate Income Virginia families.
- \* June 9, 1995 The Hampton Roads Chapter of COMPA Presents the Distinguished Public Service Award for Your Dedication to Excellence in Public Service and Commitment to Mankind.
- \* 1995 Congressman Scott received the Image Awards Political Service Award.
- \* May 6, 1995 Hampton University for Outstanding Support to the Upward Bound Program at Hampton University.
- \* March 24, 1995 The National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education and the Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

- \* 1995 National Recreation and Park Association "The National Congressional Award." 1994 100 Black Men of America, Inc. presented Congressman Scott with the "Role Model of the Year Award."
- \* 1994 Campaign to Keep America Warm acknowledged Congressman Scott's leadership in maintaining funding for Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).
- \* July 23, 1994 Award presented to Congressman Scott in appreciation for service to National Technical Association.
- \* October 9, 1993 Virginia State Conference NAACP Distinguished Life Membership Award.
- \* 1993 New Kent County Branch NAACP "For your support of our Freedom Fund Banquet and your interest and devotion to cause of freedom, equality and justice in America."